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Bp. LIGHTON'S Catechism

FOR

CHILDREN

Pſal. 119 9. *Wherewithal ſhall a young Man cleanſe his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word.*

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Bp LIGHTON'S CATECHISM.

Queſt. *WHat is naturally every Man's chief Deſire?*

Anſw. To be Happy.

Q. *What is the way to true Happineſs?*

A. The true and lively Knowledge of the only True God, and of Him Whom He hath ſent, *Jeſus Chriſt.*

Q. *What will that Knowledge effectually work in us?*

A. It will cauſe us Believe in God, and Love Him above all things, even above our ſelves, to Praiſe and Exalt and to Worſhip Him with all our Might, and to yield up our ſelves to obey all His Commandments.

Q. *Rehearſe the Articles of our Belief?*

A. I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth: And in Jeſus Chriſt, His only Son our Lord, which was

Conceived by the holy Ghoſt, Born of the Virgin Mary, *ſuffered under* Pontius Pilate, *was Crucified, Dead and Buried: He deſcended into Hell; the third Day He roſe again from the Dead, He aſcended into Heaven, and ſitteth on the right Hand of God the Father Almighty: from thence He ſhall come to judge both the Quick and the Dead: I believe in the holy Ghoſt: the holy Catholick Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveneſs of Sins: the Reſurrection of the Body: and the Life everlaſting.* Amen.

i.e. Continued in the ſtate of the Dead, & under the power of Death till the third Day.

Q. Rehearſe the Ten Commandments, which are the Rule of our Obedience, and Trial of our Love.

A. *God ſpake all theſe words, ſaying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the Land of Egypt, out of the Houſe of Bondage.*

I. *Thou ſhalt have no other gods before Me.*

II. *Thou ſhalt not make thee any graven Image or any likneſs of any thing that is in Heaven above, or that is in the Earth beneath*

neath, or that is in the Water under the Earth, thou ſhalt not bow down thy ſelf to them or ſerve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God: viſiting the Iniquity of the Fathers upon the Children unto the third and fourth Generation of them that hate Me: and ſhewing Mercy unto thouſands of them that love Me, and keep My Commandments.

III. *Thou ſhalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltleſs that taketh His Name in vain.*

IV. *Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy: Six days ſhalt thou Labour and do all thy work; but the Seventh Day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: In it thou ſhalt not do any Work: thou, nor thy Son, nor thy Daughter, thy Man-ſervant, nor thy Maid-ſervant, nor thy Cattel, nor the Stranger that is within thy Gates: For in Six days the Lord made Heaven and Earth, the Sea and all that in them is, and reſted the Seventh Day: wherefore the Lord bleſſed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it.*

V. *Honour thy Father and thy Mother, that thy days may be long upon the Land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.*

VI. *Thou*

VI. *Thou ſhalt not Kill.*

VII. *Thou ſhalt not commit Adultery.*

VIII. *Thou ſhalt not Steal.*

IX. *Thou ſhalt not bear falſe Witneſs a-gainſt thy Neighbour.*

X. *Thou ſhalt not covet thy Neighbours Houſe, thou ſhalt not covet thy Neighbours Wife, nor his Man-ſervant nor his Maid-ſervant, nor his Ox, nor his Aſs, nor any thing that is thy Neighbours.*

Q. *What is the Summary our Saviour hath given us of this Law?*

A. Thou ſhalt love the Lord thy God with all thy Heart, with all thy Soul, with all thy Mind, and thy Neighbour as thy ſelf.

Q. *What is the great and effectual Means of obtaining increaſe of Faith, and power to obey, and generally all Graces and all Bleſſings at the Hands of God?*

A. Prayer.

Q. *Rehearſe that excellent and moſt perfect Prayer, that our Saviour hath taught us?*

A. *Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven.*

Give

Give us this day our daily Bread. And forgive us our Debts as we forgive our Debters. And lead us not into Temptation, but deliver us from Evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever Amen.

Q. *In what estate was Man Created?*

A. After the Image of God in Holiness and Righteousness.

Q *Did he continue in that estate?*

A. No; but by breaking the Commandment which his Maker gave him, he made himself and his whole Posterity subject to Sin and Death.

Q *Did God leave Man in this Misery, without all Means and Hope of Recovery?*

A. No; for He so loved the World, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever Believeth on Him should not Perish, but have everlasting Life.

Q *What then is the great Doctrine and glad Tidings of the Gospel?*

A. That same coming of the Son of God in the Flesh, and giving Himself to the Death of the Cross, to take away the Sins

ons of the World, His riſing again, and His aſcending up unto Heaven.

Q. What doth the Goſpel mainly teach, and really perſwade, the true Believers *of it to do?*

A. It teacheth them, That denying all Ungodlineſs and worldly Luſts, to live Soberly, Holily and Righteouſly, in this preſent World.

Q. How hath our Lord Jeſus Chriſt expreſsed the great and neceſſary Duty of all His Diſciples?

A. That they deny themſelves, and take up their Croſs and follow Him.

Q. Rehearſe then ſome of the chief Points wherein we are to follow our Lord Jeſus Chriſt?

A. To ſurrender our ſelves wholy to our heavenly Father, and to His good Pleaſure, even in the ſharpeſt Afflictions & Sufferings, and not at all to do our own Will, nor deſign our own Praiſe or Advantage, but in all to do His Will and ſeek His Glory. 2*dly*, To be ſpotleſs and chaſte in our Affections and whole Converſation. 3*dly*, To be meek and low-

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ly in Heart, not ſlander or reproach, mock or deſpiſe any, and if any do ſo to us, to bear it patiently; yea to rejoice in it. *4ly.* Unfainedly to love our Chriſtian Bretheren, to be charitable and kindly affected towards all Men, even to our Enemies, Forgiving them, yea and Praying for them, and returning them Good for Evil, and to Comfort the Afflicted and Relieve the Poor, and to do Good to all Men as we are able.

Q. *What viſible Seals hath our Saviour annexed to the Goſpel to confirm our Faith of it, and to convey the Grace of it to us?*

A. The Two Sacraments of the New Teſtament Baptiſm and the Lord's Supper.

Q. *What does Baptiſm ſignify and ſeal?*

A. Our waſhing from Sin, and our New-birth in *Jeſus Chriſt?*

Q. *What does the Lord's Supper ſignify and ſeal?*

A. Our nouriſhment and growth in Him, and tranſferring more and more to His Likeneſs, by feeding on His Body and Blood, under the Figures of Bread and Wine.

Q. What is required to make fit and worthy Communicants of the Lord's Supper.

A. Faith in *Jesus Christ*, Repentance towards God and Charity towards all Men

Q. What is the final Portion of Unbelievers and unrepenting Sinners.

A. The everlasting Torments of Devils.

Q. What is the final Portion of them that truely Believe, and really Obey the Gospel?

A. The blessed Life of Angels in the vision of God for ever.

To young Persons before their first admission to the Lords Supper, this one Question is particularly to be added.

Q. Whereas you were in your Infancy baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ, *do you now upon distinct Knowledge, and with firm Belief, and pious Affection, own that Christian Faith of which you have given an account: and withal the Baptismal Vow of renouncing the Service of Satan, the Lust of the Flesh and of devouting your self to God in all Holiness of Life.*

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A. I do heartily and unfeignedly declare my Belief of that Faith, and my Engagment to that holy Vow, and resolve by the assistance of God's Grace to continue in the careful observance of it all my Days.

FINIS.